

Ensuring a Caring, Competent, Highly Qualified Educator in Every Vermont Classroom to Improve Student Learning

LICENSING HEARING PANEL
September 14, 2007
Vermont College, Dewey Lounge, Montpelier

R E V I S E D A G E N D A

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| 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. | Welcome, Introductions, Review of the Agenda Election of temporary chair for this meeting |
| 11:30 – 11:45 a.m. | Richard Cate, Commissioner of Education |
| 11:45 – 12:00 p.m. | Thomas James, Chair of the State Board of Education |
| 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. | LUNCH |
| 12:30 – 1:05 p.m. | Powers and Duties of the Hearing Panel, Role of Members Mark Oettinger, Esq., DOE General Counsel Marta Cambra, Director of Educator Quality Bob Gross, Assistant Director of Educator Quality |
| 1:05 – 1:30 p.m. | Conducting the Investigation Marc Eagle, Esq., DOE Legal Counsel Matt Raymond, DOE Investigator |
| 1:30 – 1:55 p.m. | Conducting the Hearing Tom Lehner, Esq., Hearing Officer |
| 1:55 – 2:15 p.m. | Representing the Parties Joel Cook, Esq., Vermont NEA Executive Director Barbara Crippen, Esq., DOE Legal Counsel |
| 2:15 – 2:30 p.m. | Hearing Panel and the Presenters – Q&A |
| 2:30 – 2:45 p.m. | Approval of Hearing Officers Election of Administrative Officer |
| 2:45 p.m. | Adjourn |

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MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Deb Benning, Kathryn Christy, Dana Cole-Levesque, Kevin Endres, Curtis Hier, Cynthia Hinrichsen, Gail Kilmartin, John Pandolfo, Deborah Rathburn, Armando Vilaseca.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Roland Burroughs, Cheryl Chedester, Lee Orlando.

STAFF PRESENT: Commissioner Richard Cate, Thomas James, Chair of the VT State Board of Education; Marc Eagle, Mark Oettinger, Barbara Crippen, Matt Raymond, John Harvey, Richard Armitage, Marta Cambra, Bob Gross, and Rebecca Otis.

VISITORS/OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Lehner, Esq., Hearing Officer; Joel Cook, VT NEA; Angelo Dorta, VT NEA; Jeff Fannon, attorney VT NEA.

Welcome, Introductions, Review of the Agenda Election of temporary chair for this meeting

M. Cambra welcomed the Board to their meeting. She asked members and staff to introduce themselves. She went over the packet of information that members received.

A. Vilaseca volunteered to serve as temporary chair for this meeting.

Powers and Duties of the Hearing Panel, Role of Members

M. Oettinger introduced himself to the Board. He spoke to the Board about the separate roles the staff attorneys will be fulfilling when litigating a case. He also detailed the role the VT NEA will be fulfilling within this litigation.

He touched briefly on: act 214 and how it changed the VSBPE structure, the adjudicative process and everyone involved, administrative hearing process and those involved (Commissioner of Education, hearing officers, hearing panel, SBE, Washington superior court, VT supreme court), administrative officer, investigation, hearing panel composition, trainings for the LHP, public documents law, open meeting law, confidentiality, publicity that surrounds sanctions for educators.

B. Gross spoke to the Board about the denial of licenses by the DOE and Commissioner. Often denial of a license comes when a person does not have the educational credits required to obtain a license in the state of Vermont. He explained what the regulations and endorsements are.

C. Hier asked if the DOE is involved in relicensing issues.

B. Gross responded that if a relicense or license is denied, the decision could come to the LHP.

M. Oettinger added that the regulatory process takes about eight months until a regulation can take effect; it also takes eight months to remove a regulation.

